

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /141 W

----- 012239

P R 021755Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7907

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OUAGADOUGOU 883

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MOBUTU VISIT

TAGS: PFOR, UV

REF: LOME 900

1. ZAIRE PRESIDENT MOBUTU MADE VISIT TO OUAGADOUGOU
APRIL 29-30. GOUV BROUGHT OUT CROWDS FOR FULL POPULAR
WELCOME. PRESIDENTS MOBUTU AND LAMIZANA HAD
SEVERAL SESSIONS TOGETHER. VISIT APPARENTLY SUCCESS.

2. BOTH PRESIDENTS GAVE SPEECHES AT RECEPTION EVENING
APRIL 29. LAMIZANA MADE WARM SPEECH OF WELCOME, IN
UNEXCITING STYLE. HE MENTIONED PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP WITH
MOBUTU (LAMIZANA VISITED ZAIRE TWICE). LAMIZANA
PRAISED MOBUTU'S PARTY (MOUVEMENT POPULAIRE DE LA
REVOLUTION) AS "ELITE OF AFRICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT,"
AND LAUDED EXPERIENCE LED BY MOBUTU (INCLUDING RESTORA-
TION OF "AUTHENTICITY") AS OUTSTANDING POLITICAL
EXAMPLE.

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3. MOBUTU'S SPEECH WAS VIGOROUS PLUG FOR AUTHENTICITY, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS BEING BASED ON: RETURN TO AFRICAN SOURCES; OPPOSITION TO IMPERIALISM/NEOCOLONIALISM; MUTUAL RESPECT, ESPECIALLY RESPECT FOR BLACK PEOPLE; AND SINGLE PARTY SYSTEM. HE HAD CONSIDERABLE EMPATHY WITH VOLTANS IN AUDIENCE. SPONTANEOUS APPLAUSE CAME AT SEVERAL POINTS, NOTABLY WHEN HE SPOKE ON THEME OF MUTUAL RESPECT.

4. MOBUTU MENTIONED SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF COUNTRIES WITHOUT COASTLINE WHICH STRICKEN BY DROUGHT, AND HE CALLED FOR SPECIAL OAU SESSION TO DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM.

5. IN CLOSING, MOBUTU SAID AFRICANS WAIT FOR CLEAR DECLARATION BY SPINOLA ON TERRITORY UNJUSTLY OCCUPIED BY PORTUGAL. (NOTE: SPEECH PRECEDED SPINOLA'S RECENT STATEMENT.)

6. COMMENT: GOUV VERY HAPPY TO HAVE MOBUTU VISIT BECAUSE OF HIS IMPORTANCE AS AFRICAN LEADER AND BECAUSE VOLTAN NATIONAL RENEWAL GOVERNMENT INSTALLED IN FEBRUARY EXPECTS TO HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON WITH MOBUTU'S "AUTHENTICITY." IT ALSO POSSIBLE GOUV MAY HOPE FOR ADDITIONAL AID FROM ZAIRE, WHICH GAVE DOLS 125,000 IN DROUGHT AID TO UPPER VOLTA LAST YEAR. BULLEN

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